



THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

NEWS

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The Cleveland Museum of Art appoints Paola Morsiani as new curator of contemporary art

*Morsiani comes from The Contemporary Arts Museum Houston
and brings knowledge of visual arts, art history and criticism*

CLEVELAND (October 29, 2007) — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) today announced the appointment of Paola Morsiani as the museum's new curator of contemporary art. Morsiani will begin her position at CMA on January 1, 2008.

"Paola was the consensus choice of the committee convened to conduct this search," Timothy Rub, CMA director, said. "She received the highest recommendation from her colleagues, and has both the experience as a museum professional and broad knowledge of the field of contemporary art to fulfill the expectations we have articulated for this position."

In her new role, Morsiani will be responsible for all aspects of the care, presentation and development of the museum's holdings of contemporary painting and sculpture. She will organize and coordinate special exhibitions, develop educational materials related to the museum's collection of contemporary art and work closely with donors and collectors in the community.

"I am very honored to join this remarkable American institution, especially at this time of expansion and renewal," Paola Morsiani said. "My experience at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston gave me a unique opportunity to work with a lively arts community and with contemporary artists locally, nationally and internationally. I greatly look forward to contributing my best efforts to the growth and success of the Cleveland Museum of Art and to do so in dialogue with the community. I am thrilled to be joining a distinguished curatorial team and look forward to working with Timothy Rub as well as with the museum's board and its dedicated patrons."

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Morsiani, curator at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston since 1999 and most recently senior curator, brings broad experience in the field of contemporary art. Among the exhibitions she has curated in Houston were *Andrea Zittel: Critical Space*, which won the Best Design and Architectural Exhibition award in 2005 from the International Association of Art Critics/USA, *Subject Plural: Crowds in Contemporary Art* and *Wishing for Synchronicity: Works by Pipilotti Rist*. Before arriving in Houston in 1999 Morsiani also worked at The Drawing Center and Queens Museum of Art both in New York, as well as the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh as an assistant for the 1995 *Carnegie International*.

Morsiani holds a Master's degree in Visual Arts Administration from New York University and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Laurea in Art History and Criticism from The University of Padua in Italy. She is currently an advisory board member at the Aurora Picture Show in Houston and a Center for Curatorial Leadership fellow.

About The Cleveland Museum of Art

The Cleveland Museum of Art is one of America's leading comprehensive museums. Its permanent collection is world renowned for its quality and breadth, spanning 6,000 years. The museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship and art acquisitions. For more information on the museum, its holdings, programs, services and events, call 1-888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

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